

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL HONG KONG PRIORITY

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TAGS: TRAD, HK

SUBJECT: HOLBROOKE'S MESSAGE TO HONG KONG AMCHAM

REFS: A) HONG KONG 4381; B) STATE 10114;
C) HONG KONG 5148

FOLLOWING IS ASSISTANT SECRETARY HOLBROOKE'S MESSAGE TO AMERICAN BUSINESS COMMUNITY OF HONG KONG FOR THE FOURTH OF JULY ISSUE AMCHAM JOURNAL. MESSAGE FROM ASSISTANT SECRETARY WEIL WILL FOLLOW VIA USDOC CHANNEL. PHOTOS BOTH HOLBROOKE AND WEIL MAILED AIR APO MAY 18.

TODAY AS OUR COUNTRY MOVES INTO ITS THIRD CENTURY I AM PLEASED TO HAVE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR EFFORTS IN SUPPORT OF U.S. POLICIES IN EAST ASIA AND TO EMPHASIZE YOUR GOVERNMENT'S CONTINUING INTEREST IN THE REGION AND SUPPORT FOR FREER WORLD TRADE.

YOU ARE TO BE COMPLEMENTED FOR YOUR SPONSORSHIP OF THE AMERICAN FORTNIGHT IN HONG KONG. WE ARE DELIGHTED WITH
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THE SPIRIT OF COOPERATION SHOWN BY THE AMERICAN CHAMBER AND CONSULATE GENERAL IN STAGING AN EVENT WHICH IS PERHAPS THE FINEST EXAMPLE OF ITS KIND IN THE REGION.

AS MANY OF YOU HAVE REGIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES I KNOW YOUR INTEREST IN U.S. FOREIGN POLICY TOWARD EAST ASIA EXTENDS FAR BEYOND HONG KONG. YOU MAY, THEREFORE, BE

INTERESTED TO KNOW WHERE WE PRESENTLY STAND ON OUR
RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE REGION. AMONG OUR BASIC POLICY
OBJECTIVES ARE THAT:

-- THE UNITED STATES SHALL REMAIN AN ASIAN-PACIFIC POWER.
TOWARD THAT END WE WILL MAINTAIN A STRONG U.S. ECONOMIC
PRESENCE IN THE REGION AND ASSIST THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES
IN PRESERVING POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC STABILITY.

-- WE SHALL PRESERVE A BALANCED AND FLEXIBLE MILITARY
POSTURE IN THE WESTERN PACIFIC.

-- WE SHALL MAINTAIN CLOSE TIES WITH JAPAN.

-- WE SHALL MAKE EFFORTS TO NORMALIZE DIPLOMATIC
RELATIONS WITH THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA, WITH DUE
REGARD FOR THE SECURITY OF THE PEOPLE OF TAIWAN, AND THE
INTERESTS OF OTHER FRIENDLY GOVERNMENTS IN THE REGION.

-- WE CONTINUE TO SEEK NORMALIZATION OF DIPLOMATIC
RELATIONS WITH VIETNAM.

-- OUR SECURITY AND ECONOMIC TIES WITH OUR ALLIES IN
NEW ZEALAND AND AUSTRALIA REMAIN STRONG.

-- WE INTEND TO PHASE OUT OUR GROUND FORCES IN KOREA
WHILE INSURING THAT THE SECURITY OF KOREA IS IN NO WAY
THREATENED. OUR TROOP WITHDRAWAL WILL BE CARRIED OUT IN
CLOSE CONSULTATION WITH THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AND WITH
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JAPAN.

-- THE UNITED STATES CONTINUES TO HAVE AN INTEREST IN
SOUTHEAST ASIA AND WILL PLAY AN APPROPRIATE ROLE THERE.
WE LOOK FORWARD, FOR EXAMPLE, TO SUCCESSFUL NEGOTIATIONS
WITH THE PHILIPPINES ON THE USE OF BASES THERE.

-- WE EXPECT CONTINUED COOPERATION WITH THE INDIVIDUAL
COUNTRIES OF SOUTHEAST ASIA AND LOOK FORWARD TO
ECONOMIC CONSULTATIONS WITH THE ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEAST
ASIAN NATIONS (ASEAN).

LOOKING BEYOND THE REGION I ALSO WISH TO EMPHASIZE THAT
THE UNITED STATES IS DEDICATED TO IMPROVING THE WORLD
ECONOMIC STRUCTURE. WE WILL, AS DEMONSTRATED BY THE
PRESIDENT IN HIS RECENT DECISIONS AGAINST CALLS FOR THE
RESTRICTIONS ON IMPORTS, CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THE CONCEPT

OF FREE TRADE AS MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL. SUCH SUPPORT WAS

AGAIN MADE CLEAR BY THE CALL AT THE LONDON SUMMIT FOR
PROGRESS AT THE TOKYO ROUND TALKS AT THE MTN. AS AN
IMPORTANT ELEMENT WE WILL CONTINUE TO STRESS THE ROLE
PRIVATE BUSINESS CAN PLAY IN DEVELOPMENT BY URGING FAIR
AND EQUITABLE TREATMENT OF INVESTORS. U.S. BUSINESSMEN
CONDUCTING THEIR ACTIVITIES IN ACCORDANCE WITH STANDARDS
OF CONDUCT FORMULATED BY THE U.S. AND ITS INDUSTRIALIZED
PARTNERS IN THE OECD CODE FOR MULTINATIONAL ENTERPRISES
WILL REINFORCE THE ACCEPTABILITY OF THIS POLICY IN ASIA.

TODAY THERE IS MORE NEED THAN EVER FOR ALL AMERICANS,
OFFICIAL AND PRIVATE, TO WORK TOGETHER IN A SPIRIT OF
COOPERATION AND UNDERSTANDING IN FURTHERING OUR
INTERESTS IN THE EAST ASIAN REGION.

IF WE CAN DO THAT THEN WE WILL HAVE TAKEN A STEP TOWARDS
A STABLE, PEACEFUL EAST ASIA.

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